

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-27 are pending in this application. New claims 21-27 have been added hereby. Claims 1 and 18 have been amended.

Anderson and Truetken.

Claims 1-12 and 18-20 were rejected as obvious in view of the combination of Anderson and Truetken. Claims 1 and 18 have been amended to clarify the invention and the distinctions from the cited art. In particular, it appears from the office action that the prior claim language was deemed broad enough to cover the interlude simply being an off position of a camera. This has been corrected, with the amended claims now clarifying that the camera is switched between a view mode in which live images are provided (e.g., a web cam), and an interlude mode in which other images are provided (e.g., stored images or images from another camera).

As noted in the office action, Anderson discloses a web cam system but does not disclose the interlude switch or interlude mode. Truetken was cited as teaching the existence of an interlude mode. Column 4, line 59 - column 5, line 13 of Truetken was cited. However, this section of Truetken appears to show nothing more than video being initiated when there is an incoming call.

As amended, claims 1 and 18 make clear that the interlude switch switches between live images from the camera and an alternate source of images being provided. This can switch over either automatically or upon toggling a physical switch. Nowhere do Anderson or Truetken show or suggest switching from a live image feed to an alternate image feed. In one example, a user may want to use the web cam for providing video images of him or herself during a phone call, but otherwise may want a stored video or alternate camera providing images to the web cam web page.

The new claims are directed to additional features which are not shown or suggested by the two cited references. In particular:

Claim 21 sets forth that the alternate image is a stored still image. This is not shown or suggested by the cited art.

Claim 22 sets forth that the alternate image is a stored video image. This is not shown or suggested by the cited art.

Claim 23 sets forth that the alternate image is from a second digital camera. This is also not shown or suggested by the cited art.

Claim 24 sets forth that the first digital camera is normally in a interlude mode, and is switched into a view mode when a video call is initiated. This is not shown or suggested by the cited art, since an interlude mode of an alternate image being provided by the camera is not shown or suggested. Claim 25 is similar, depending from claim 1 instead of claim 18.

Claim 26 sets forth that the interlude switch is a soft switch, or computer code, which causes the change in the source of images. This is also not shown or suggested by the cited art.

Claim 27 sets forth that the alternate image is a second digital camera. Again, this is not shown or suggested by the cited art.

The elements of the other remaining dependent claims, in conjunction with the independent claims, as amended, are also not shown or suggested by the cited art.

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Amdt. dated September 29, 2005
Reply to Office Action of July 7, 2005

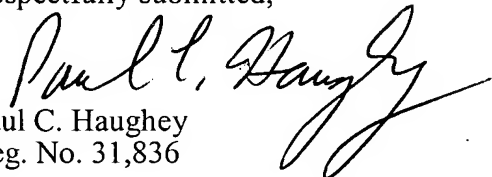
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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner does not believe this amendment puts the application in condition for allowance, a telephone conference is respectfully requested. The undersigned can be reached at 415-576-0200 (x4087).

Respectfully submitted,


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